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# Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 MCT-01 SY-05 OMB-01 CU-02 ACDA-07 /092 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2754
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 6772
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, EG, LY
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN PRESS GOES AFTER QADHAFI

REF CAIRO 4328,

1. ONLY AHRAM CONTENTS ITSELF WITH FRONT PAGE ANTI LIBYAN NEWS REPORTS MARCH 15: BOTH AKHBAR AN GUMHURIYYA OPT FOR AD HOMINEM ATTACKS ON QADHAFI ON EDITORIAL PAGES.

2. AHRAM REPORTS REVEAL THAT EGYPTIAN STATESECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT ANOTHER "LIBYAN ASSASSINATION TEAM," TRAINED BY LIBYAN INTELLIGENCE, HAS BEEN ARRESTED AND DETAILS OF GDSSI INTERROGATIONS TO BE MADE PUBLIC SOON. NO FURTHER
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DETAILS, OTHER THAN STATEMENT THAT TEAM WAS TO HAVE UNDERTAKEN SERIES OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN EGYPT. AHRAM ALSO REVEALS, FROM ITS CORRESPONDENT IN TEHRAN, THAT IRAN HAS WITHDRAWN ITS AMB FROM TRIPOLI, BECAUSE QADHAFI FINANCIALLY BACKING IRANIAN STUDENTS THROUGHOUT WORLD IN POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO SHAH.

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3. GUMHURIYYA'S MUHAMMAD AL-HAYAWAN EDITORIALLY NOTES THAT QADHAFI CONSIDERS HIMSELF ANOTHER NAPOLEAN (OR PERHAPS ROBESPIERRE) AND IS DELUDED INTO THINKING THAT LIBYAN REVOLUTION AKIN TO FRENCH REVOLUTION. HAYAWAN NOTES THAT QADHAFI DREAMS A NEW ILLUSION EVERY DAY AND THAT LIBYAN PEOPLE SARCASTICALLY LAUGH AT THEIR DEMENTED COL, ALTHOUGH IN SECRET LEST THEY BE THROWN TO QADHAFI'S DOGS.

4. AHMAD ZAYAN OF AKHBAR DWELLS UPON "HAIR-RAISING" INFO OF QADHAFI'S TRAILS OF LIBYAN ARMY OFFICERS AND MASS DEATH SENTENCES BEING HANDED DOWN, ZAYN CHARGES THAT QADHAFI TALKS ABOUT FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY, BUT ACTS LIKE A MURDERER. ZAYN POINTS TO MASS ARRESTS COMMITTED IN NAME OF RECONSTITUED PEOPLE'S TRIBUNALS AND WONDERS WHERE, IN FACT, PEOPLE'S POWER HAS GONE.

5. COMMENT: WITH PUBLICATION OF NAME CALLING EDITORIALS, EGYPTIAN PRESS HAS GONE ABOUT AS FAR AS IT CAN GO, ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT TO SEE MORE AD HOMINEM ATTACKS. ARREST OF LIBYAN "ASSASSINATION TEAM" AND PROMISED REVELATIONS FROM INTERROGATIONS SHOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT GRIST FOR ANTI-LIBYAN EDITORIALS DURING COMING WEEKS.
MATTHEWS

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# Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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**Review Markings:**
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